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# THE PUGET SOUND TRAIL

A weekly publication of the Associated Students of the University of Puget Sound, Tacoma, Washington

## Two additional fall break days proposed

RAYNA FLYE  
Staff Writer

Many students would be in favor upon first glance at a proposal to add to classless days to the fall semester. On April 4, the Faculty Curriculum Committee will present a proposal to add two more break days to the fall semester, one on the Wednesday before Thanksgiving and one on Fall Break weekend. This sounds simple enough, just cut two days out of other breaks and reallocate them. Unfortunately, the process is not that easy. First, there must be an agreement among the faculty over which days can and should be eliminated.

Associate Dean Bill Barry said the process of coming up with an extra two days began last year as a product of frustration. Many of the professors were concerned that students often elect not to attend class on the Wednesday before Thanksgiving, and felt that giving students an official travel day before the

holiday would alleviate some of those problems. The Curriculum Committee, who is in charge of the calendar, also discovered through a survey that there was a great deal of faculty interest in adding an extra day to the official Fall Break.

### Ways to accomodate more break days in fall

- Eliminating one day of Reading Period
- Making Labor Day a class day
- Having Winter Break not begin until the 21<sup>st</sup> or 22<sup>nd</sup> of December
- Extending finals into Saturday
- Eliminating two days of Orientation

Even though plans were initially discussed within the Curriculum Committee, a standing committee of the Faculty Senate, the issue has become so controversial that it was referred to the entire senate.

On the idea of adding those two particular days off during the fall,

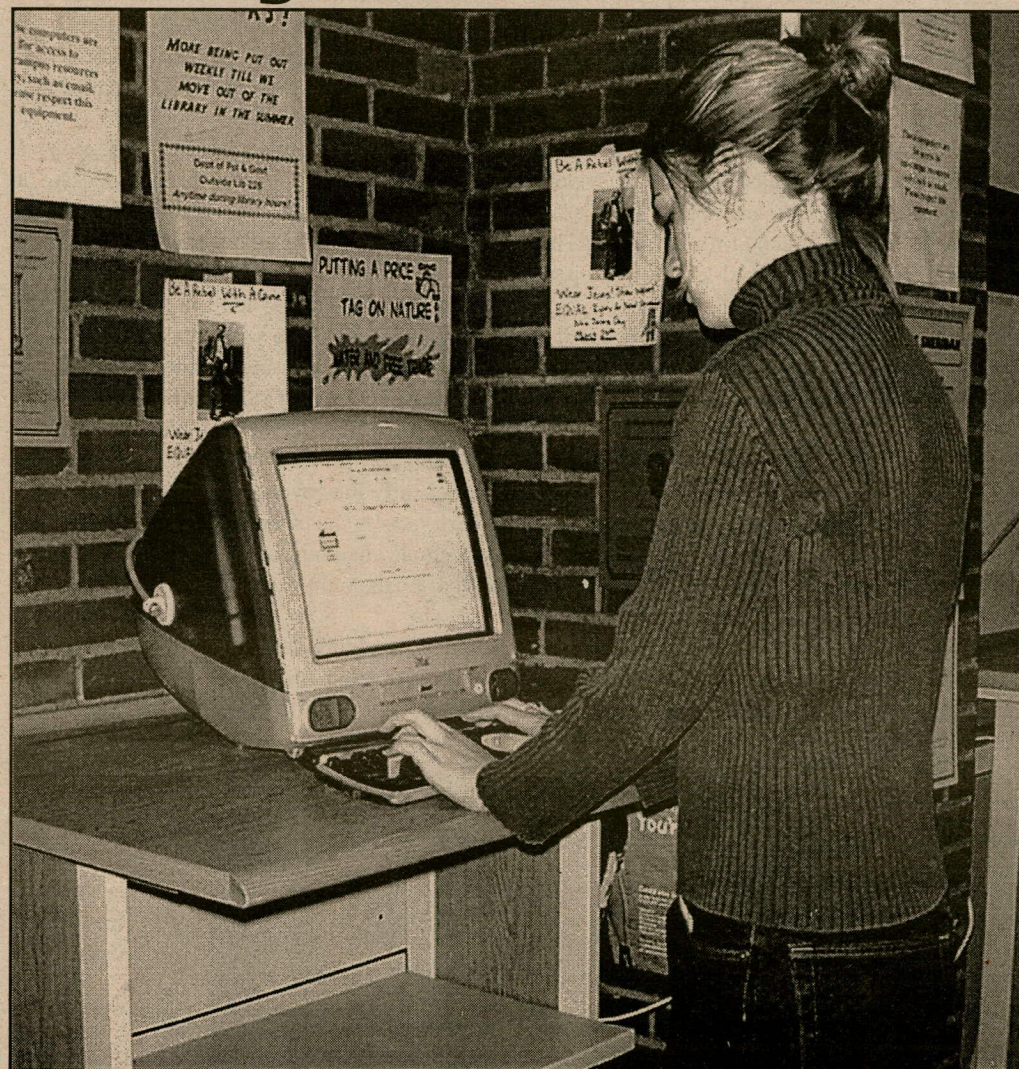
Faculty Senate Vice-Chair Heather Bruce stated, "It makes sense. Then everybody gets a break."

While there are many ways to redistribute breaks, Barry said, "The scheme that we came up with was to start classes on the Thursday of what is now the current Orientation."

Barry also supported the selection of Thanksgiving Wednesday and Fall Break as destinations for the extra vacation. "I

please see Fall, page 4

## You've got mail...in the WSC



Senior Rebecca Browning checks her email on one of the two new iMacs recently installed by the WSC Information Center. The computers are a gift from alum R. E. Clenton Richardson ('83), an employee of Apple Computers.

K. Ellis

## WHAT PROJECTS DO YOUR NEW ASUPS SENATORS HAVE PLANNED FOR THEIR TERM?

| Brett Broek *<br>At-Large<br>bbroek@ups.edu<br>ext. 4136  | Judson Greif *<br>Senior<br>jgreif@ups.edu<br>ext. 2629   | Jessi Nemens *<br>Junior<br>jnemens@ups.edu<br>ext. 4449  | Alex Peterson *<br>Sophomore<br>abpeterson@ups.edu<br>ext. 2538 | Jennifer Tillet<br>At-Large<br>jtillet@ups.edu<br>ext. 2502  |
|---|---|---|---|--|
| Sanitary toilet seat covers for campus restrooms; facilitate process of clubs sharing campus facilities | Create Young Republicans Club; participate in issues related to Integrity Code; fulfill responsibilities related to senior class gift, senior dinner and Commencement | Safety issues (more lighting between library and fieldhouse, security alarm stations throughout campus, another security phone by music building, bring self-defense speaker to campus) | Still forming ideas   | Campus recycling (more containers, ensure recycling carried out); nutrition in Diner (posting ingredient and nutrition info, healthier food); professor evaluation book (to be completed by next fall) |

\* did not respond to initial contact, neccesitating repeated messages

## Some senators have full plate, others at standstill

ROBERT MCCOOL  
News Editor

Wondering what your ASUPS Senators have been up to lately? One or two of them have found a number of projects to tackle this semester, while at the same time some of their colleagues are at a bit of a standstill.

Take, for example, On-Campus Housing Senator Christopher Abbott, who ASUPS President Ryan Mello calls a "superstar" for his motivation. Abbott has been working with Facilities Services to get a campus sprinkler schedule published and posted, a project he says will be completed in the next month. He is also working with Associate Director of Student Development Shane Daetwiler to cre-

ate a survey system for students in on-campus houses to report necessary renovations.

"I think this will help the university stay focused on keeping renovations updated for those students," Abbott said.

Among his other ongoing and proposed projects, Abbott is part of a committee trying to expand the utility of student account cards on campus. The committee hopes to implement a system that would allow students to use their cards for laundry and vending machines, as well as possibly for entrance into campus buildings.

Abbott also intends to campaign for additional ATM machines on campus, and he plans to take a leading role in getting nutrition informa-

please see Senators, page 3





## NEWS AROUND THE GLOBE

### INTERNATIONAL

#### **Putin elected to serve as second Russian president, heralded as good sign by West**

In a sweeping victory in last Sunday's election, ex-KGB officer Vladimir Putin was elected president of the world's largest nation.

Following former President Boris Yeltsin's Dec. 31 resignation, then-Prime Minister Putin assumed the role of the presidency. To this point, he has held both the offices of prime minister and president simultaneously, which gave him the election-year advantages of government campaign funding and public recognition.

Communist Gennady Zyuganov was the runner-up in the presidential election, but his 29 percent was not nearly enough to topple Putin's 53 percent or to require a second-round runoff. The other nine candidates received less than 20 percent of the vote combined.

Forty-seven year-old Putin's projects for the coming months are to construct a new government and unveil a new economic plan.

### NATIONAL

#### **"Parkland Rapist" sentenced to life in prison without possibility of parole for July attacks**

Monday afternoon in a Pierce County courtroom, tears of both joy and anger greeted the conviction of the man who police believe to be the "Parkland Rapist," 36 year-old Frank Reed Nordlund, on counts of indecent liberties and attempted second-degree rape.

Sentencing for Nordlund is set for May 12. However, due to Washington's "two strikes you're out" law for sex offenders, he will receive a mandatory sentence of life in prison without the possibility of parole. His first strike came in 1985 when he pleaded guilty to three counts of attempted rape. He was released from prison in 1990.

The two charges on which Nordlund is convicted levied against him for the attacks on July 2, in which he assaulted both a thirteen year-old and a sixteen year-old girl. The rapist will be tried for seven other attacks in Pierce County in 1998, as well as five in King County. Nordlund will be in trial for the next several years.

Though these new trials will not be significant in determining the sentence, Pierce County Deputy Prosecutor Mary Robnette felt that they were necessary for the sake of justice. Many victims would like to see closure to their cases.

Upon announcement of the verdict, Nordlund was stunned and vowed to appeal his sentence because he felt that reasonable doubt existed.

#### **Elian Gonzales family refuses to comply with Justice Department and Immigration deals**

After many months of tension between the US Justice Department and Immigration and Naturalization on one side, and the Cuban population of Miami and Elian Gonzales' family on the other,

the Justice Department is demanding a prompt resolution to the case.

Gonzales' mother drowned in a shipwreck on the way to the US from Cuba last November, and at that point, custody of the boy was awarded to his great-uncle in Miami. Despite numerous requests from the boy's father in Cuba that Elian be returned to him, the family has resisted, saying that they do not want him to grow up in a communist country.

These sentiments have won the backing of Miami's large Cuban-American exile population, some of which are willing to make a human chain around the Gonzales house should INS come in to attempt to deport Elian.

The family is currently appealing a decision last week by a federal judge that backed the INS in saying that the boy belongs with his father. The family is upset that the judge refused to give Elian a political asylum hearing and feel that the situation is so tense that they are keeping Elian home from school for fear he will be taken by INS.

The federal government wants the family to agree that if the courts rule against Elian staying in the United States, that they will give him up. However, they refuse to make the agreement and consequently, the government says that it does not have to keep its end of the bargain by letting Elian's great-uncle maintain custody. If custody is removed, Elian could be taken back to Cuba.

#### **Seattle Kingdome destroyed by implosion**

As Washingtonians looked on from numerous vantage points, the 24 year-old Kingdome was

successfully imploded with two tons of explosives last Sunday to make way for a new stadium for the Seattle Seahawks.

The implosion, which occurred at 8:30 a.m., registered on seismographs at the University of Washington and as far south as Olympia and also sent a major dust cloud into

Seattle's downtown area.

Nostalgic spectators have returned to the site to pick up pieces of the imploded dome for their collections. The rest of the concrete will be recycled and crushed into pieces to be used by the Washington Department of Transportation in making the bases for new roads.

The implosion broke a few windows in surrounding structures, but otherwise did not cause major damage to buildings or infrastructure. Ninety-nine percent of the Kingdome's bulk actually fell within its intended area.

The new Seahawks stadium is expected to open in August 2002. Its foundation will contain some of the remains of the Kingdome. The next step is to remove the debris from the site.

*News Around the Globe  
compiled by Erin Speck*

#### **SOURCES:**

*Associated Press, Financial Times, New York Times, Reuters, Seattle P-I, Tacoma News Tribune, Yahoo!*

## Bowe's appointment sparks controversy

EMILY CARES  
Staff Writer

Two Senate spots remain open since the ASUPS elections last March. Though efforts have been made to fill the positions, a variety of obstacles have stood in the way of any appointments.

As reported in an earlier edition of *The Trail*, the ASUPS Senate charged former ASUPS President Dave Bowe with filling the position of Senator-At-

Large vacated by Keith Kelley.

On the Friday before Spring Break, Bowe appointed Mariette Clardy, former Freshmen Senator, to the position. However, new ASUPS President Ryan Mello was inaugurated on the Thursday before Bowe's appointment.

Honor Court Chairman John Tulloch soon raised the question of whether Bowe's appointment, as it was made after Mello's inauguration, went against the ASUPS constitution. Now a decision

must be made on whether the presidency, as in the office, or Bowe, as the individual, was charged with making the appointment.

"This is the first question the Senate needs to address," Mello said.

While working to fill the ASUPS positions in accordance with the constitution, the Senate asked Bowe to speak at a Senate meeting.

After speaking his on appointment of Clardy, Bowe made allegations that Tulloch overstepped his au-

thority as Honor Court Chairman. Bowe, who could not be reached for this article, made two main points against Tulloch, as Tulloch himself explained.

Tulloch said, "Dave would not provide me with a copy of what he said." However, Tulloch explained the allegations as he understood them. According to Bowe, Tulloch spoke for the Honor Court without their permission on at least two separate occasions, namely the forced

*please see Appointment, page 3*



### OPEN FORUMS & CAMPUS EVENTS

**Catholic Campus Ministry will host a Lenten Soup Dinner as a part of R.O.C.'s "Exploring Spirituality" on Thursday, March 30 at 6:00 p.m.** at 3712 N. 12 St. A discussion about Mary and the Communion of Saints will follow at 7:00 p.m. in Gail Day Chapel in Kilworth. Also as part of the series, CCM will be sponsoring a discussion about Community and Reconciliation on Saturday, April 1 at 3:30 p.m. in the WSC lounge and a Mass Celebration on Sunday, April 2 at 5:00 p.m. in Kilworth Chapel.

**Attention sophomores and juniors: Reserve your spot now at the Sophomore & Junior Class Dinner on Thursday, April 6 from 5:30 to 7:15 p.m.** in Marshall Hall. There will be door prizes, a special program, and the Retro 2000 Slideshow. Free tickets are

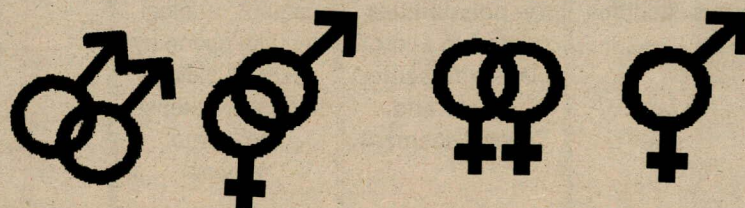
available through April 4 at the Info Center. Call Alumni Programs at x3451 for more information.

**Interested in learning sign language or brushing up on what you already know?** Beginning sign language meets every **Tuesday at 8:00 p.m.** in WSC 101 and intermediate sign language meets every **Thursday at 8:00 p.m.** in the Murray Boardroom.

**The Dolliver Seminar Program, "Ancients and Moderns Symposium,"** will be taking place **through Saturday, April 1.** Numerous scholars in the classics and humanities are scheduled to speak each day, including both UPS faculty and guest speakers from around the nation. For more information visit <http://www.ups.edu/humanities/dolliver.htm>.

## The UPS Queer Dance

Saturday, April 1 from 9:00 p.m.  
to 1:00 a.m. in the Rendezvous



COME AS YOU ARE: GAY, STRAIGHT, BI, WHATEVER





Honor Court Chair John Tulloch swears in new ASUPS President Ryan Mello and Vice-President Erin Smith during the Inauguration ceremony on Thursday, March 9.

## Senators

tion posted at the various food stations in the WSC Diner.

This spring, he also wants to work with Earth Activists in finding the best system for getting dishware returned to the Diner. He is also considering the possibility of planning a large outdoor party for on-campus housing residents, although he admits this plan is still fairly vague.

Greek Senator Ryan Sweeney does not have quite as many projects on his plate, although he does have several he has been devoting time to this semester. He is working with Director of Facilities Services Jon Robins to get bike racks installed outside each of the Greek houses.

Sweeney said, "One of the difficulties we're running into is that the university has an abnormally high standard on what their bike racks have to be." He was told that each rack would cost \$18,000 to \$20,000, but he hopes to bring the price down to at least a quarter of that.

In addition, Sweeney is working with Manager of Dining Services Steven Davis to improve the reliability of the card-activated vending machines in the Greek Tunnels. He also has a plan in the works to help solve the Diner's dishware shortage—he intends to talk with Bruce Bechtle, Director of Dining and Conference Services, about the possibility of hiring work study students to collect dishes from campus locations.

Unlike Abbott or Sweeney, Senator-at-Large Andrew Peterson does not have any of his own projects that he is currently working on. The sandwich boards he conceived of last semester as a way to advertise university events have recently been completed and are now set up at several locations around campus.

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Although the idea for the boards was his own, Peterson said Associate Dean Houston Dougharty and members of Facilities Services did much of the work in actually getting them built. "They did a lot of the leg work," he said, "so they deserve a lot of the credit."

Peterson is currently in the process of deciding what his next project will be.

Off-Campus Senator Michele Cummings has reached a standstill with her project this semester. She has been working with the North End Neighborhood Council to turn the vacant lot at Washington and North 10<sup>th</sup> Streets into a community park. However, due to complications with getting the site excavated this spring, the project has come to a temporary halt. Cummings said she spends an hour or two each week communicating with relevant parties, but anticipates that she will be busier this summer and next fall.

"Once it actually gets rolling it will be quite a big time commitment, both for myself and for anyone else who's involved," she said.

Most of the newly-elected senators do have several projects they've proposed for the coming year, although Sophomore Class Senator Alex Peterson said she is still forming her ideas.

In any case, the new senators do seem to be busy—only Senator-at-Large Jennifer Tillett found the time to respond to an initial e-mail inquiry about project ideas. Senators Greif, Nemens and Peterson never did respond to that or a follow-up e-mail, but did eventually reply to a voice mail message.

Multiple e-mail and voice mail messages were required to prompt a response from Senator Broek, however.

## Appointment

continued page 2

resignations of former Senators Keith Kelley and David Bahar and Clardy's appointment.

Tulloch denied these accusations, saying that he did not introduce the issues in an official capacity. He said, "I raised [the] issue not as a member of the Honor Court, but as a normal member of ASUPS." By doing this, he lost his ability to sit on the Court for the issues on which he spoke.

Bowe also expressed concern regarding a few other incidents. According to Tulloch, Bowe felt that some of Tulloch's demands throughout the year stretched the limits of the Honor Court Chairman's responsibilities as outlined in Article V of the ASUPS constitution. For example, Tulloch asked for a key to the ASUPS office, a table for the Honor Court at this spring's inauguration and a computer for the Honor Court. As a result of senatorial and presidential decisions, none of these demands were met. Tulloch said, "[Bowe] lashed out in what seemed to me to be a very personal attack."

Personal or not, Senate found the allegations serious enough to merit an investigation. Mello is forming an investigative committee to look into the allegations. As Senator Brett Broek explained, "It was important to assess the validity of the charges.... We felt [this would be] the quickest way." The committee is expected to present its findings to Senate on April 13.

# Fight at party sends two Sigma Chis to hospital

ROBERT MCCOOL  
News Editor

Festivities at the annual Sigma Chi Beach Party were dampened when a group of four Phi Delta Theta Fraternity members physically attacked two Sigma Chi members early Sunday morning, March 26.

The incident took place in the parking lot behind the Sigma Chi Fraternity at approximately 2:30 a.m. According to Director of Security Services Todd Badham, it is not entirely clear whether the incident was a fight or what motivated the assault.

However, he said the four assailants had earlier been denied access to the Sigma Chi party and were milling in the alley behind the house when the two Sigma Chis came out. The assailants con-

fronted the pair and then physically accosted them, Badham said.

At the time of the altercation, a Security Services officer was patrolling nearby. As the officer approached the area, the attackers ran off.

However, the victims were later able to identify one of the assailants, who was detained by Security personnel until Tacoma Police Officers arrived.

Badham said, "[One of the victims] pressed charges against the student Phi Delt for assault and he was arrested."

Both victims were taken to the hospital for treatment of wounds they sustained in the attack.

Neither Badham nor Brian Gettman, President of the Interfraternity Council, were able to provide the names of the individuals involved. However, Gettman

please see *Assault*, page 4

## NEWS BRIEFS



### Annual ASUPS budget process kicks off with "Meeting of Minds"

The annual "Meeting of the Minds," a preliminary step toward developing the 2000-2001 ASUPS budget, was held on March 29.

According to ASUPS Vice President Erin Smith, the meeting was an open forum for people to air their concerns about the budget. She also noted that it served as an open window of sorts into how the budget is constructed and allocated. Importantly, it was an avenue whereby individual students, clubs and organizations can both gain knowledge from the budget committee for the future, and contribute their past experiences to the meeting, helping others to avoid common pitfalls and errors. Although the meeting was poorly attended last year, there were high hopes for more student participation on Wednesday.

### Borders fundraiser successful

On Sunday, March 26, the UPS branch of the senior honor society Mortar Board sponsored a literacy fundraiser at Borders Books and Music in Tacoma.

Mortar Board arranged a deal with Borders to offer a twenty percent discount on any regularly-priced item sold in the store. Ten percent of the proceeds generated by the coupon sales were donated to First Book, an organization devoted to promoting literacy.

The event raised \$2,000, which will be presented to representatives of First Book at the Mortar Board Initiation on April 16. Molly Grooms, co-historian for the honor society, commented that "It was amazing... there was a lot of support from students, faculty and staff."

She added that this year's total was even better than last year's, when the library raised \$1,200 for the organization. As an honor society, Mortar Board is not only committed to scholarship, it is also dedicated to service and leadership, regularly assisting other service agencies like Special Olympics and L'Arche Tahoma Hope.

### ASUPS fills DPR, DBS positions

ASUPS has recently selected Nick Lowe as Director of Business Services and Andrew Peterson as Director of Public Relations. Committees were composed to help in the decision making, but the final decision was made by President Ryan Mello and Vice-President Erin Smith. In response to the selections, Mello said, "We are very appreciative of all the applicants that were interviewed. We look forward to a very successful year in ASUPS with our new team."





# Swope Lecture addresses violence, death of Jesus

NICHOLE ASHWORTH  
Assistant News Editor

As the second in the Swope Lecture Series, Dr. Rita Nakashima Brock spoke on violence and religion to the UPS community Thursday,

March 23 at 7:30 p.m. in Kilworth Chapel. The lecture, entitled "The Cross, the Death of Jesus and a Violent Culture," focused on three main issues: the death of

Jesus, the traditional interpretations of his death that make it theologically necessary for salvation and a new "Christian grammar" of life instead of violence.

Brock began with a story of a woman, battered by her husband, who went to a female pastor for help. The story questioned the necessity of violence and suffering for love.

She mentioned other examples of violence in today's society, including sexual and racial acts of violence.

"Violence is a human problem," she

said, "a means of social control and emotional catharsis."

She used a second story, the rape of a four-year-old girl, to relay her message of the presence of God. "Nobody has to suffer for God to be known to us," she asserted. She talked about love as a living presence, and said that, "God does not want us to suffer. God wants us to live."

The lecture ended with a final story of presence and a World War II veteran's return

home. The painful reality of her story brought tears to some eyes as the chapel filled with applause. Brock answered a few questions from the crowd, followed by a reception in which people had the chance to talk with her.

Chaplain Jim Davis said that the reception had a great turnout. "It was scintillating in terms of people continuing the dialogue," he said. "The ideas she raised were discussed on and on and on and on. It was just really a great exchange of viewpoints and ideas and questions."

*"God does not want us to suffer. God wants us to live."*

*—Dr. Rita Nakashima Brock, Swope Lecturer*

## Assault

continued from page 3

said that one of the victims was a UPS alum and that the other was a student from another university.

When asked how this incident might reflect on the reputation of the Greek sys-

tem at UPS, Gettman said, "It was basically a couple of idiots acting poorly.... Unfortunately, this is a case where the negative actions of very few reflect poorly on the greater Greek system."

## on campus

MARCH 22—28, 2000

### March 25

**5:40 a.m.** A Facilities Services staff member discovered the vending machine in the basement lounge of the Music Building had been tipped over. The machine was damaged as a result.

### March 26

**2:30 a.m.** Two alumni reported they were assaulted outside a fraternity on Union Avenue. The two indicated they were leaving the house and were confronted by four suspects they believed were current students. It is not clear at this time what motivated the assault. One of the victims was able to identify a suspect involved which resulted in an arrest. The victims were treated at Tacoma General Hospital for cuts and scrapes to their faces. The case is still under investigation.

### March 27

**3:00 p.m.** A student who lives in a fraternity on Union Avenue reported the door to his room was kicked open while he was away for the weekend. There are no suspects and nothing appeared missing from the room.

### March 28

**6:26 p.m.** A student reported her Helley-Hanson ski jacket was stolen from a study room in the Library. She stated she had left the coat unattended for about 10 minutes. When she returned it was gone. There are no suspects.

**\*\*Anyone with information about the incidents described above is encourage to contact Security Services at extension 3311. Information will be kept confidential.**

## Fall

recognize that with a student body that is becoming more and more a national student body rather than just a Washington State student body, that [a travel day] would be a good thing."

The Curriculum Committee is also bringing this proposal before the entire faculty, not only the senate. Barry explains, "What we'll do on the faculty meeting is to bring that proposal forward, and ...also bring forward some of the alternatives."

ASUPS President Ryan Mello does not feel it is worth adding two extra break days at the expense of the Orientation process or Reading Period. He expressed that the ASUPS Senate feels similarly.

Mello said, "I asked the Senate. Because it's such a pretty fast-paced issue nobody really had time to survey. I am relying on the Senate to go to their constituents and ask them what they think of the issues, and for them to report back to me. The Senate is adamantly opposed to it."

As for a solution he thinks might work, Mello replied, "I wouldn't mind giving up Labor Day." He is urging the senate to consider either the extended Thanksgiving vacation or the Fall Break day, but not both.

Student Katie Feisthamel disagrees. She said, "I think it is a good idea to have extra days, especially for Thanksgiving for travelling. I think that taking it out of Orientation would probably be an okay idea because it can get pretty long. I don't know if I like the Labor Day idea."

Barry has reservations about whether the Curriculum Committee's proposal or any other proposals will actually be accepted. "There's probably a good chance we'll stay with the status quo, but I haven't the faintest idea of how it will shake out." He believes that things might remain the same because there is such a variety of options that it may prove difficult to rally a group around any particular one.

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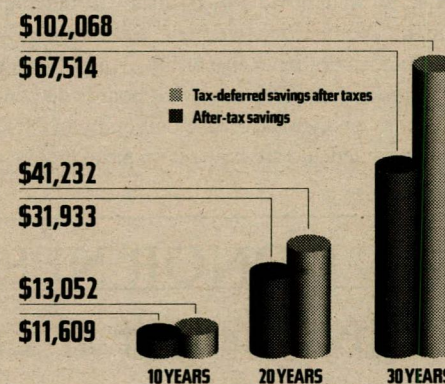
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# Local parks provide liberation in spring weather

MIKE TIEMANN  
Assistant A&E Editor

As the skies around Tacoma begin to shed their distinctive gray for some welcome blue, and the temperature starts to soar above 40, it's the perfect time to get out and start enjoying spring. Luckily, there are plenty of spots in the area—some better known than others—to soak up the sun, take in a Sound view, and just generally get active. Each park offers something unique. There's no shortage of views and green spaces in town (we basically live in a park on campus), but if you're looking for a new place to satisfy your spring fever, here are some great ones to consider.

**Point Defiance Park**—Surely the best-known and best-loved recreation spot for UPS students, Point Defiance is popular for good reason. Its nearly 700 acres of dense woods, beaches and viewpoints are unparalleled in the city. The park is a perfect example of prime military land that was thankfully opened up for the public to enjoy.

Among the many highlights at Point Defiance are the zoo, gardens, public pier and boathouse, Owen Beach, and the infamous Five Mile Drive. The drive is a fine way to watch a sunset, with plenty of inspiring vantage points in every direction, from Vashon Island to the Narrows Bridge and Gig Harbor. Any of its stops are great places to sit on the bluffs with a picnic lunch—my personal favorites are "Vashon" and "Gig Harbor."

For a good walk to get your legs and lungs working, Owen Beach is hard to beat. The driftwood-strewn shoreline doesn't offer much in the way of sandy expanses, but there are plenty of great barbecue and frisbee areas. The pathway to the boathouse and back offers a good, rousing walk, with unmatched views across to Vashon Island, charming poetry inscribed on the sidewalk, stops along the way for stream valleys like the "Sound Garden," and great views of Mt. Rainier and sailboats



A sunbather takes in a view of the Narrows from Point Defiance Park.

in the Sound on clear days.

For a more secluded walk, try the Rhododendron Garden, which connects you to trails through old-growth woods that leave you feeling far away from civilization (even though an occasional car zipping through the trees at your side will remind you that you're not). All in all, Point Defiance is a local gold mine of fair weather fun. It's close to campus and a great way to enjoy your surroundings. To get to Point Defiance, take 21st to Pearl, turn right and follow Pearl until you're there, or hop on the #11 bus, which swings by the corner of 21st and Alder, as well as 26th and Proctor.

**Dash Point State Park**—Located on the north side of Commencement Bay, Dash Point is remarkably similar to Point Defiance's Owen Beach—a wooded hillside which plunges onto a beach with views of the sound and islands. Dash Point's facilities are of better quality than those at Owen Beach (new

bridges and approachable restrooms) and the beach itself is bigger and sandier. Look for the peaks of the Olympics over the islands on a sunny day. While the beach is for day use, Dash Point also offers camping facilities (110 sites). It's a unique opportunity to camp, only a half hour away, relatively close to the city. To get there, follow the signs to Dash Point off of I-5 at Federal Way, or follow Highway 509 across industrial Tacoma.

**Titlow Beach Park**—This park, located just south of the Narrows Bridge, is memorable for its bridge views and quiet, gentle trails. It offers sports fields, tennis and basketball courts, the excitement of passing trains, and tranquil short hikes. There is a network of wooded paths above the beach and along the railroad tracks.

The beach itself is somewhat scummy and rocky, with remnants of an old burnt-out pier. But its signs tell about the local marine life,

and the view of the bridge is well worth a look. To get to Titlow Beach Park, follow 6th Avenue west—all the way west, over the hill at Jackson Street, until you reach the park.

**Kopachuck State Park**—Across the Narrows Bridge in Gig Harbor, this relatively secluded waterfront park offers shaded, wooded hillsides, calm as well as steep trails, boating and clamming. The beach, while not as extensive as Owen Beach or Dash Point, gives great views of Henderson Bay and the Olympics. A campground is also available at Kopachuck, in a nicely isolated forest environment. Kopachuck takes some effort—and about 45 minutes—to reach; follow the signs from west-bound Highway 16, but be prepared to spend a long time on local streets.

**Flaming Geyser State Park**—Besides having possibly the most alluring name of all the area's parks, Flaming Geyser, on the Green River, boasts some of the most attractive river shore in the area. The "geyser" itself is not all that thrilling. Once it spouted flames several feet high from underground methane gas (and caught the attention of "Ripley's Believe It or Not"), but today it only reaches around 10 inches. It's basically a candle in a rock pit, but still a fairly interesting sight.

The real beauty of this park is in its riverbanks, in the midst of the Green River Gorge. The lawns are ideal places for picnics or frisbee games on sunny days, and plenty of families come to live it up. Tubing down the river is also popular in the summer.

The park offers pleasant wooded trails in the hills as well as along the riverside. Flaming Geyser Park is only 45 minutes to an hour away, although it feels much more adventurous and satisfying to make the trip, and it is a great destination for a sunny afternoon by the river. To get there, follow I-5 north to Highway 18 (toward Auburn), then take Highway 164 toward Enumclaw. From there, follow Highway 169 north and follow the signs to Flaming Geyser.

## 'Soul Calibur' offers whole new level of addictiveness

T. CARL KWON  
Staff Writer

Ah, yes. The fighting game. I can remember its humble beginnings in "Street Fighter II" and "Mortal Kombat." And as a true video game player, I even tracked down a copy of "Street Fighter" once and played it (let's just say I fully understand why it didn't get big until they made the sequel). Since those good old days of parents complaining about the bloody nature of "Mortal Kombat," things have gotten a whole lot better (or, in the parents' eyes, worse).

"Soul Calibur" is a tribute to the art of the fighting game, creating an incredible graphics engine and adding in hundreds of moves, throws, dodges and general mayhem. While you may have seen it in the arcade, if you haven't had a chance to play it on the Dreamcast let me say this—you ain't seen nothing yet.

Let's start with the graphics engine. It is absolutely gorgeous. It's more detailed, more realistic, and faster than pretty much any of the other games out on the market today. Not only are each fighter's animations for every move seamlessly blended into the next, but the background scenery is spectacular as well. I will openly admit that I lost several matches simply because I was in awe of the eye candy

that this game presents.

Of course, the graphics are only one part of this equation of beauty; the physics behind the game are pretty accurate as well. Fighters stumble and stagger, leap and bound, and of course, get smacked by a variety of weapons. When I say the game is realistic, that is what I mean. There is still, of course, the problem of impenetrable skin that all the fighters seem to have—various martial arts weapons do not puncture their opponents as they should, but then again, this lack of actual bloodshed is why we love these games, isn't it?

Speaking of weapons, that is one of the defining characteristics of this game—all characters fight with weapons rather than fist to fist. Some have swords, some have spears, others have eight foot tall battle-axes. Every warrior has a unique weapon, and because of this, there are a wide range of fighting styles represented in the game. And, as far as I can make out, they are represented pretty accurately too.

The characters also have distinct personalities, shown in their fighting style, wardrobe and opening and closing remarks at the beginning and ending of each battle. For instance, one immediately sees the difference in intelligence between Mitsurugi's benevolent "May there be mercy on your soul" and Rock's enigmatic "Bangoo!!"

Another great feature of this game, though I hesitate to say this for fear you will all faint with disbelief, is the fact that it has an interesting storyline. Yes, an interesting storyline! As you go through the story, new characters are unlocked, legendary battles take place, and you get to kick a whole lot of butt. Each character has its different motives and backgrounds that are slowly unlocked as you proceed through the game. None of that one paragraph of character development then a bunch of fights that the early games used to provide.

Though this game has been out for a while—it was one of those originally released with the Dreamcast—I have yet to see anything top it. I would highly recommend this to those of you out there with friends and a Dreamcast, for this game will occupy you for quite some time without getting boring. Believe me, I know from experience.



"Soul Calibur" combines beautiful graphics with spectacular gameplay, as Kilik demonstrates on Voldo.

Game  
Review

### Gamer's Info

Title: Soul Calibur

★★★★★

(out of 5 stars)

Platform: Dreamcast

Price: \$44.99





# Jazz Alley accessible for all ages, styles of music

**SHERARD EWING**  
Staff Writer

Jazz's natural state is to be performed in a club. I realized this after seeing Roy Hargrove at Dimitriou's Jazz Alley in Seattle last Thursday. Only a couple of weeks before, I had caught a Wynton Marsalis concert in an arena, and it just wasn't the same.

Even in a theatre, jazz feels much too formal. At clubs like the Jazz Alley, when the audience and the group on stage are close enough to hoot and holler and make eye contact, that's when jazz becomes loose and real.

Hargrove was playing the first show of a four-night show series at the alley. His band played an awesome set ranging from Afro-Cuban music to hard bop. Hargrove played the trumpet on the fast songs, and the flugelhorn on the more mellow songs. At one point, saxophonist Sherman Irby played the cool title song of his album for Blue Note, "Big Mama's Biscuits." Larry Willis, who played with Lee Morgan in the past, played piano, and Willy Jones III had some spectacular drum solos.

The atmosphere of the club was just right. My companions and I were about three tables back and could see the whole band. As a mere college student, I could not afford to sample the luxurious menu,

but with such appetizers as fried calamari sprinkled with hazelnuts at ten bucks a pop, I can say that the place is classy. If only I were twenty-one and could sit back with a glass of red wine and watch some jazz. But that's beside the point. The point is that Dimitriou's Jazz alley is cool little club, where the musicians hang around and talk to the audience after the show. At the show last Thursday, people were coming up to Roy Hargrove and Sherman Irby and asking if they were using certain musical phrases and shaking their hands, thanking them for the great set.

While Hargrove won't be coming back to the Alley anytime soon, there are a couple shows lined up which are definitely worth catching. The Michael Brecker Quartet will be at the Jazz Alley from April 6-9. His most famous work has been with his brother Randy as the Brecker Brothers. His solo work, however, is highly regarded as well. He's also done a lot of collaborations with stars such as Frank Zappa, Steely Dan, Paul Simon and Frank Sinatra. Some have gone as far as to say that Brecker is a better saxophonist than John Coltrane was. While this is of some debate, Brecker is definitely worth seeing.

As a side note, Joshua Redman will be appearing at the King Kat theatre. For those who have not heard of Redman,

he is one of the newest saxophonists to arrive on the jazz scene. He won the Thelonious Monk Institute Prize for saxophone in 1991. A peer of Hargrove's, they have worked together on many recordings, as well as with Wynton Marsalis and Michael Payton.

If you want to make reservations for the Jazz Alley, you can do it on their website at <http://www.jazz-alley.org>. Also, you can call (206) 441-9729, or you can fax for a reservation at (206) 443-8247.

You can also win tickets to the Jazz Alley. The best part about my trip was that it was free—a friend of mine had won tickets in a giveaway from KUPS. If you want the same, listening to the Sunday morning jazz shows on 90.1 FM will certainly help.

The Michael Brecker performances are Thursday, April 6 at 8:00 p.m. and 10:00 p.m.; Friday and Saturday at 8:30 p.m. and 10:30 p.m.; and Sunday at 6:00 p.m. and 8:30 p.m. Tickets ordered online or by fax must be done at least three days in advance.

For tickets to the Joshua Redman concert, you can call the King Kat Theatre at (206) 269-7444, or get them through Ticketmaster.



Michael Brecker will appear at Jazz Alley April 6-9 to display his tenor saxophone stylings. Brecker has won seven Grammy Awards and was named Jazz Man of the Year by Swing Journal in 1997.

## Brockovich exposes shady water dealings with humor

**EMILY STOLTZ**  
Staff Writer

What would you do if you were a woman with three kids, no job, no money and no husband? Many people might be in this situation and lack the courage or initiative to improve it, but the movie "Erin Brockovich" tells a different story. It is a heartwarming, inspiring drama derived from the real-life Erin Brockovich, a woman faced with incredible difficulties who went above and beyond all expectations to change her life and the lives of others.

Julia Roberts portrays Erin Brockovich in this lighthearted drama. Erin is down and out, broke and desperate for a job when a car accident that was not her fault lands her with huge medical bills and the need for an attorney. She files a lawsuit through Ed Masry (Albert Finney), an aging lawyer who is looking forward to retirement. After Ed promises Erin that he will get her some money, she is irate when she fails to get any compensation from the lawsuit. Reaching the end of her monetary and emotional resources, she begs Ed for a job in his law firm.

With little education, virtually no job skills and a wardrobe that would land in the "fashion faux pas" section of any fashion magazine, Erin is an unlikely candidate for a law office job. However, equipped with intelligence and natural charm, she becomes a fiery and dynamic force that Ed comes

to depend on. She also gains much of what she had lost, including a new boyfriend, George (Aaron Eckhart), who takes care of her kids when her job becomes more demanding.

Erin's job at the firm involves simple duties, but she becomes puzzled when she finds medical records in a folder for a real estate dispute and takes it upon herself to investigate. She finds something hugely unjust. A nearby community is suffering health problems due to water contamination from a local plant. The plant is run by a large national company, and with Ed's help, Erin signs on more than 600 people to take the company to court for one of the biggest lawsuits in history.

This true story is a testimony of the strength of the human spirit. It shows all that can be accomplished when someone struggles to achieve a goal. Erin fought an injustice to herself and others, and earned a different life.

Though technically a drama, the movie is also funny, smart, and grabs your attention from the very beginning. The entire cast—composing a unique array of dynamic personalities—does an incredible job, especially

Roberts. She brings fire and charisma to the screen.

No doubt, the movie entertains, intrigues, and offers a story of struggle that many people will appreciate. This was a great film coming from an even greater real-life triumph.

**End Result:** A worthy representation of an incredible woman's story.

**Rating:** ★★★★★

### Movie Rating System

- ★ Not worth your time
- ★★ Rent it when there's nothing better to do
- ★★★ Worth going out to one of these days
- ★★★★ Run, don't walk to the movie theater!

## Campus

## EVENTS

Guest Artist Patrick Sheridan, tuba  
with the University Wind Ensemble

March 31, 7:30 p.m.

Concert Hall

Free

Patrick Sheridan Recital

April 1, 7:30 p.m.

Concert Hall

\$10.50 general, \$6.50 student

ASUPS Cultural Events presents

Rongchun Zhao, erhu, and Fubuki Daiko, taiko

March 31, 8:30 p.m.

Kilworth Chapel

\$5 general, student discount

Senior Theatre Festival presents

"Trust," by Steven Dietz

March 31, 7:30 p.m.

April 1, 2 p.m. and 7:30 p.m.

Norton Clapp Theater

\$7.50 general, \$5.50 student

Understanding Sexuality presents

The Annual Queer Dance

April 1, 9:00 p.m. to 1:00 a.m.

Club Rendezvous

"Come as you are"

\$3 single, \$5 couple

Discount for those who come dressed in drag

## Off-Campus

## EVENTS

Polocat, Peter Parker and  
Wussy Beat Up the Jocks

April 1, 4:00 p.m.

Bob's Java Jive (All Ages)

Lit, Save Farris and Fenix TX

April 1, 8:00 p.m.

Moore Theatre

\$15

Bruce Springsteen & the  
E Street Band

April 4, 7:30 p.m.

Tacoma Dome

\$37.50-\$67.50

Oasis and Travis

April 5, 8:00 p.m.

Paramount Theatre

\$27.50



# 'Trust' promises rock music, intimacy, emotion

INTERVIEW BY KRISTINE ERICKSON  
A&E Editor

On March 31 at 7:30 p.m. and April 1 at 2:00 p.m. and 7:30 p.m., the first play of this year's Senior Theatre Festival, a group of students directed by senior Sarah Moon will perform Steven Dietz's play "Trust" at the Norton Clapp Theatre.

In the play, Becca (Erin Burns) is engaged to Cody (Ryan Weadon). Leah (Lisa Reimer) meets Cody and they have an affair. Becca later discovers the affair and breaks her engagement. Meanwhile, Becca is having her wedding dress made by Gretchen (Alona L. Hemschoot), and they end up developing a close relationship. Becca also meets Leah and Holly (Alex Peterson), and they all strike up a friendship. Roy (Clay Morse) is connected to the other characters by meeting Holly. He's a radio announcer, and Cody and Leah come on his show. At the end of the play everyone converges at Cody's concert and the group forms a new configuration. The play offers an interpretation of how relationships can come, go and change and how people keep searching for deeper love.

**Kristine Erickson:** What do you want people to know about this play?

**Sarah Moon (SM), Director:** It's a contemporary comedy/drama about six characters. It deals with love relationships and [the issue] of stardom and how that affects a relationship, because two of the main characters are rock musicians. Cody is an up-and-coming rock star on the cover of *Rolling Stone*, and Leah is sort of a has-been rock star. Their careers have had a major impact on their personal lives. You get to see both sides of the coin—you get to see what it's like for them with that struggle [dealing with their public and personal lives] and you get to see what it's like for their partners.

**Kelly MacLaughlin (KM), Dramaturg:** And you see the reactions of the people around

them who are affected.

**SM:** But it's not solely about being a rock star. It's really an intimate, personal play, and it's really character-driven.

**RW:** It deals with relationships in general because it's also looking at how two people are trying to get a relationship started, like Holly and Roy... and how fast relationships can fall apart.

**AP:** Yeah, everyone's kind of searching for someone.

**SM:** And it really applies to our age group—most of the characters are in their mid-to late twenties and they're all in that sort of age where they're really trying to find love and dealing with maybe marriage and maybe not.

**KM:** I think each character has their own value of what they want in a relationship... some people want love, some don't want that right away... everyone has their own approach.

**CM:** They're just trying to figure out the opposite sex, too, and trying to understand what things about the opposite sex do or don't make the relationship work.

**Others:** Or the same sex.

**LR:** I think it also highlights a lot of the tricks that people play, and games in dating—it's so obvious when you watch other people do it, it's like, "Yeah, everybody does that" [even though those tricks are] things that we think are our own.

**SM:** I think the play definitely invites the audience to identify with the characters.

**KM:** It contains a lot of characters talking about other characters, which gives you a look into not only the interactions [between characters] but also the subtext—what's going on in their brain.

**KE:** What are you most excited about in the play? What do you think are the challenges and rewards, both for you and the audience?

**CM:** I think my biggest challenge is my monologue—I'm talking to the audience and making eye contact... In the usual convention of theater, the actor... will not make direct eye



The cast and crew of "Trust" open up. L-R, Top: Delia Greve, Kelly MacLaughlin, Sarah Moon. Middle: Erin Burns, Lisa Reimer, Alona Hemschoot. Bottom: Ryan Weadon, Clay Morse, Alex Peterson.

contact with the audience, so I'm excited about that, but I'm curious to see what the audience's reaction will be to that. I am kind of on the fringe [of this play], but I explain myself and my subtext through this monologue.

**Delia Greve (DG), Stage Manager:** I think it's a challenge because it's so intimate, and also, because it's done in the round, it invites the audience to get really involved in the intimacy... I think that part of the challenge is drawing the audience in.

**SM:** Instead of the intimacy making them nervous, we want to make them feel connected to the characters. Another thing that's important about this show is that we have a green room area that's visible to the audience where the actors sit during the performance when they're not onstage. They can eat or smoke, and this is another closeness to the audience, it will be interesting to see how they respond to having the actors right there.

**KM:** There's nothing closed-off about this

show. It's all open and out there for the audience to take what they will... The play is very raw. Minimal set, minimal lights, music-heavy, but that just flows with the idea of the rock-star music element of the show. Everything is very exposed.

**RW:** What I got from it... is that relationships are so messy, and... by looking at this play and seeing all the hurt [love] can do, I've been wondering what makes humans keep looking for something else. Why do you keep on trying to find that good relationship? I think it would be good if the audience asked themselves that question... because I think some people don't know... I just hope that it kind of opens people's eyes.

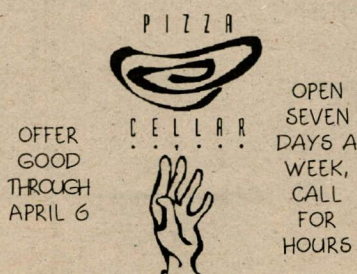
**DG:** I feel like there's something in this play that everybody can identify with. There's something in every character that someone's going to take away with them.

Tickets for "Trust" are \$5.50 for students, available at the Info Center and at the door.

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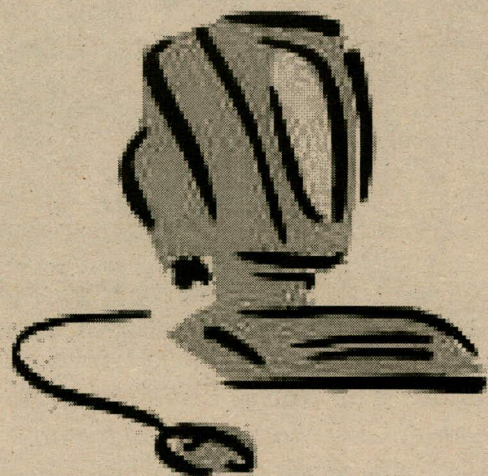
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# the e-commerce revolution

## or "How Everything I Want I Can Now Buy Online"



In recent years, the Internet has gone through major transformations. Originally nicknamed "The Information Superhighway," the Internet may now be more appropriately called "The Mega Mall Super Strip on the Information Superhighway." Regardless, the face of the Internet has drastically changed into an entity focusing on commerce rather than knowledge. Users can buy anything from compact discs to hair styling products to video tapes to prescription medicine. A Seattle-based company is even selling and delivering groceries using the Internet.

So what does this mean for the college consumer? Instead of only being able to choose Border's Books and Music or Buzzards for CDs, the Internet opens up a nearly unlimited selection at comparable (sometimes even cheaper) prices. The goal of e-commerce is to provide choice, and online retailers are relying on this "freedom to choose" as the driving force behind sales. But what cost does this online shopping freedom bring?

## Online grocery service delivers food products to Seattle residents

The Bellevue, Washington-based HomeGrocer.com delivers a wide variety of food products to homes and businesses in the Seattle area (though not to Tacoma, yet). It also maintains branches in Portland, Ore. and Orange County, Calif. In 1999, *Forbes* magazine called it one of the "Cool Companies of 1999."

HomeGrocer.com represents a new breed of Internet businesses working to deliver straight to the customer. Like Seattle-based Amazon.com, HomeGrocer.com leads in e-commerce innovation.

"HomeGrocer.com was founded on the belief that online technology,

combined with old-fashioned home-delivery, can offer busy consumers a more convenient way to grocery shop," as stated in a company press release. The company offers 100 percent satisfaction and free delivery for purchases over \$75 (otherwise shipping and handling costs \$9.95). Food is delivered in special refrigerated trucks.

In the Nov. 29 edition of the *Seattle Times*, Keith Ervin compared prices between HomeGrocer and the QFC in downtown Bellevue when the company first opened in 1998. A purchase of \$131.70 at QFC equated to a cost of \$138.94 at

HomeGrocer.com. He commented, "Prices were generally comparable, often identical. Often, items from QFC came out less expensive because HomeGrocer doesn't mark much down on sale and it doesn't offer a cheaper house brand."

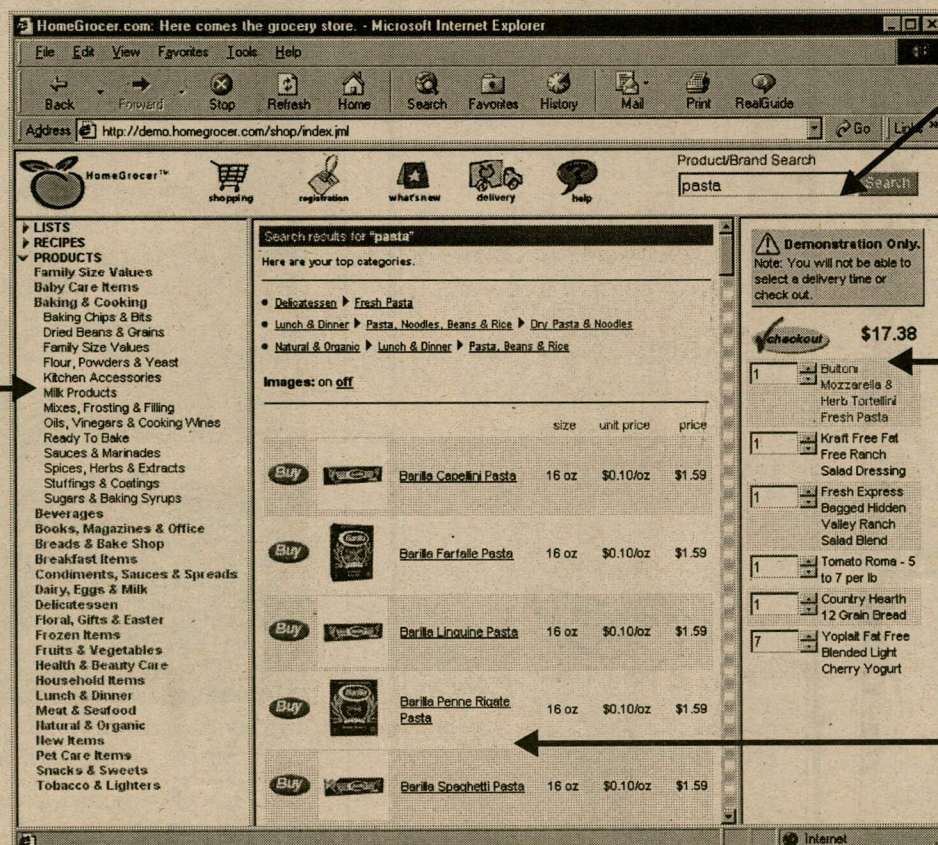
Although Tacoma is not yet covered, a customer service representative stated, "We do plan to significantly expand our delivery areas, although we have not established a firm time frame for expanding to the Tacoma area. Log on to our website and periodically check to see about our latest service area expansions."

Products can be searched for by entering keywords.

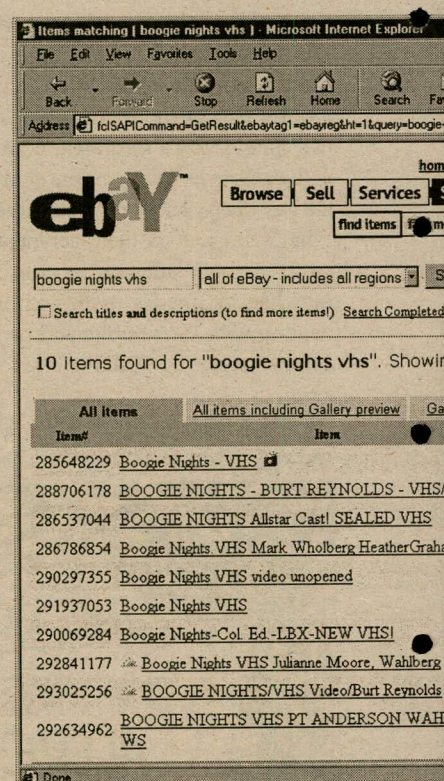
A list of products in the shopping cart, in addition to the total price is displayed on the right. To buy more than one of a product, increase the increments in the quantity box using the arrows. To make the purchase, click "Checkout."

The middle section displays items matching a search or a selection from the product list. Small pictures of the product are shown, along with the size, unit price and product price. To add an item to the cart, click the "Buy" button.

Sections or "aisles" can be browsed using the product list. The categories are subdivided into very specific items to make shopping easier and more precise.



## AUCTIONS: A



A search for a video cassette of the movie *Boogie Nights* for sale with varying prices.

Quickly becoming one of the most popular for e-commerce (giving users the ability to sell), eBay redefines auctions by selling everything from sports equipment and art collections.

Launched on Labor Day in September 1995, over 400,000 auction items every day are sold, including everything from sports equipment to computer products, Beanie Babies and more.



**CLOTHING COUNTS TOO.**



# CD Buying: Does the Internet provide lower costs?

Compact discs were the first commodity to be sold in mass quantities on the Internet. CDNow is hailed as one of the first major e-commerce sites around. Shipping is fairly inexpensive (between \$2 and \$5 depending on the number purchased). With the costs of CDs at stores often reaching beyond \$15, many find that purchasing CDs online is easier and cheaper. But which online retailer is the best? Unfortunately, it varies depending on the CD, and comparison shopping is the only way to get the best deal.

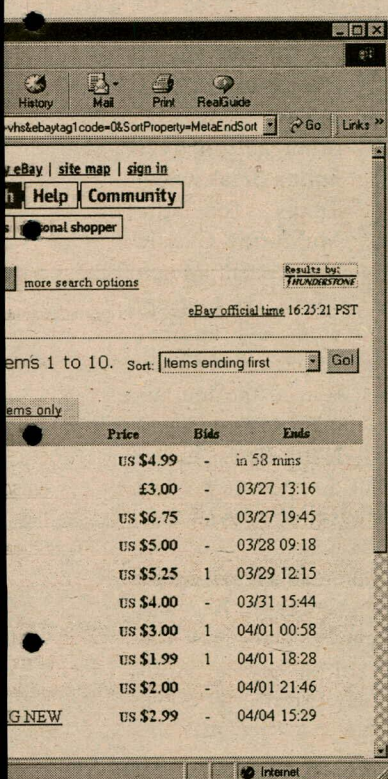
But with the advantages come disadvantages as well. When ordering a CD online, shipping and handling must be paid (which rarely costs less

than \$3), and the CD can take from a few days to weeks to arrive.

The following selection of seven CDs was chosen to compare costs between various online stores and local stores. "Supernatural" is the current number one album according to Billboard, and "On How Life Is" holds spot number four. "Horrory For Boobies" contains the popular song "The Bad Touch." "The Night" and "Building Something Out of Nothing" are the two top albums on the College Music Journal charts. And finally "A Normal Family" and "Darklands" are two CDs that are often difficult to find, and expensive ("Darklands" is out of print in the United States).

|  | Virgin Megamart | Buy.com | Amazon.com | CDNow   | Sam Goody    | Borders      |
|--|-----------------|---------|------------|---------|--------------|--------------|
| Santana "Supernatural"                         | \$12.99         | \$9.95  | \$13.28    | \$13.28 | \$15.99      | \$13.99      |
| Macy Gray "On How Life Is"                     | \$11.88         | \$9.95  | \$11.88    | \$11.88 | \$14.99      | \$12.99      |
| Bloodhound Gang "Horrory for Boobies"          | \$17.97         | \$9.95  | \$12.58    | \$12.58 | \$12.99      | \$17.99      |
| Morphine "The Night"                           | \$16.97         | \$13.95 | \$12.58    | \$12.58 | \$17.99      | \$17.99      |
| Modest Mouse "Building Nothing From Something" | \$14.97         | \$11.95 | \$14.22    | \$13.49 | not in stock | \$14.99      |
| Babyfoxx "A Normal Family"                     | \$16.97         | \$11.95 | \$13.99    | \$11.99 | \$17.99      | \$16.99      |
| Jesus and Mary Chain "Darklands"               | not in stock    | \$13.95 | \$17.97    | \$16.99 | not in stock | not in stock |

## THING OF THE PAST OR A PART OF THE FUTURE?



ie Nights returns a list of ten items

t popular sites on the Internet  
ity to buy and sell products),  
ore than just antique furniture

mber 1995, eBay now boasts  
n more than 2,900 categories  
emorabilia, toy collectibles,  
dolls, coins, stamps, out-of-

print books, compact discs, antiques, pottery and other products which would be difficult or impossible to find at conventional retail outlets, including antique and thrift stores.

"As the leading person-to-person trading site, buyers are compelled to trade on eBay due to the large amount of content available. Similarly, sellers are attracted to conduct business where there are the most buyers," eBay's company overview stated.

eBay's unique customer feedback system maintains buyer and seller accountability. Once a transaction is completed, and after the item has been shipped and received, both parties are encouraged to leave feedback to ensure that future customers will not be scammed.

Items found on eBay will vary day-to-day. Although eBay specializes in rare or difficult to find goods, the scope has widened to include vendor surpluses and businesses using eBay as a way to attract new customers. On a less-conventional note, now some college students are even selling used clothing in order to make money quickly.

To make a bid on eBay one must register (which requires some personal information and an e-mail address). Then search for an item, and make a bid. eBay uses a "Dutch auction" style of bidding, which means you can enter a maximum amount you wish to bid. If you are the higher bidder and someone makes a bid less than yours it will tell them that they have been outbid. This can be dangerous, but is meant so that people do not need to constantly watch their auctions.

eBay works as an alternative to other online stores, offering lots of items at extremely cheap prices. And with the widespread use of DVD players, many people are selling previously viewed VHS tapes for low prices.

"It's like a garage sale the whole world can go to. You can find stuff that would be impossible to get in stores," commented Laura Heywood, a frequent eBay buyer and seller.

## Caution required for online shopping

Although buying things online can be fun, easy and extremely convenient, one must take some precaution when clicking that "buy" button.

Nearly all online stores prefer using a credit card (or debit card with a credit card logo) for transactions. The use of credit cards for purchasing online creates two dangerous pitfalls.

First, companies such as Amazon.com have created what is called "one click shopping" which involves storing user information (such as a credit card number and shipping information). When a user sees something they wish to purchase, they are only one click away from purchasing that product. If someone is being careless, they can easily overspend on online purchases.

Second, many have concerns about the safety of their credit card numbers on the Internet. Although most sites are secure, earlier this year two teenagers from Great Britain managed to hack into the CD Universe database and download credit card information for nearly 26,000 customers. Although these cases are rare, they do happen, and one must be cautious when giving out their credit card information. Only order from reputable sites.

Furthermore, when purchasing online, one must keep in mind the reputation of the company one is dealing with. Established companies such as CDNow and Amazon.com are fairly reliable when it comes to sending orders out. However, a slew of no-name stores have sprung up, and one must be careful not to make too large of a purchase without investigating the company one is ordering from. An easy way to do this is to make a small purchase (of under \$10), and see if the product arrives.

er apparel companies are jumping onto the e-commerce bandwagon with catchy websites packed with models and clothing samples. Though not all labels offer online buying (though many claim that they will in the future), all of these popular brands have websites with information on buying (including sizes, colors and cost).

### Offers online Purchasing:

Abercrombie & Fitch  
<http://www.abercrombie.com>  
American Eagle Outfitters  
<http://www.ae-outfitters.com>  
Gap  
<http://www.gap.com>  
J Crew  
<http://www.jcrew.com>  
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New Balance  
<http://www.newbalance.com>  
Old Navy  
<http://www.oldnavy.com>  
Tommy Hilfiger  
<http://www.tommy.com>





# SPORTS

## Briefs

### Swimmers strong at first NCAA Division III Nationals appearance

After winning six NAIA National Championships in the past ten years between them, the UPS men's and women's swimming teams came to Atlanta for their first NCAA Division III Championship and made themselves at home. Both teams finished in the top 20, an encouraging start to the teams' time in the NCAA.

In the women's championships, held March 8-11, the women came home in 16th place with 60 points. The seven women selected to compete—freshmen Emily Cares and Amanda Didier, sophomores Carla Fellezs, Mari Gantner, Krista Prescott and Susanne Olsen, and senior Kristen Booth—all had performances to be proud of, and the women's 400 relay team earned All-American status for their eighth place finish in that event.

The men's championships took place the following week, March 15-18, and the men took 18th place with 61 points. The two qualifiers, seniors Kyle Sexton and Nathan Guy, both had outstanding showings. Sexton took ninth place in the 100 fly and 100 backstroke, and cruised to a fourth place finish in the 200 backstroke with a time of 1:51.32. Guy took fourth in the 100 breaststroke (57.59) and sixth in the 200 breaststroke (2:05.21). Both men earned All-American honors.

Both Championships were won easily by powerhouse Kenyon College of Ohio. The Kenyon women won their 17th consecutive title, and the men their 21st.

### Tennis teams sweep three weekend road matches

Both the men's and women's tennis teams stayed fresh over Spring Break, coming back from a two-week rest to put together impressive and encouraging performances over the weekend.

On Saturday, March 25, the men's team was in California to face Dominican College and came away with a 5-2 win. Andy Loveless took the #1 singles match, 6-7, 6-3, 6-1, Eric Muller came away with a 6-4, 7-6 win in the #3 spot, and Paul Kelly dominated in the #5 position, 6-0, 6-0. Andrew Petersen and Robi Cunningham earned a win in the #2 doubles spot, 9-8 (9-7). UPS took the #6 singles and #3 doubles spots by default.

On Sunday, March 26, UPS stayed in California to take on Menlo College, coasting to a 7-0 win. Only once did a Menlo singles player take four games in one set as every Logger came up with a straight-set win over his opponent. On the doubles side, Cunningham and Kelly won 8-6 in the #1 slot, Petersen and Muller were 8-4 victors in the #2 match, and Loveless and Matt Lovseth blanked their #3 opponents 8-0.

Loveless, a sophomore from Yakima, earned UPS Athlete of the Week honors for earning two singles and two doubles victories over the weekend. The wins improved the Loggers' overall record to 5-2, but they are just 1-2 very early in their Northwest Conference season.

The women had just one match over the weekend, a March 25 contest at division rival Whitman College, and came away with a 5-4 victory to lift their record to 3-3.

Singles positions one through five all won their matches, including an impressive comeback victory for Laura Brock in the #3 slot after dropping the first set 0-6. All three doubles teams were defeated by the Missionaries, but the dominating singles performances were enough to lift the Loggers over the top.

This week, the women play host to two teams on April 1, taking on George Fox University at 10:00 a.m. and Lewis & Clark College at 3:00 p.m., and will round out the weekend at home against Pacific University on Sunday at 10:00 a.m. The men will travel to Oregon to take on George Fox and Lewis & Clark on Saturday, then take Sunday off in preparation for a midweek matchup against The Evergreen State College.

# UPS breaks in new field in style

• Loggers rout BC after field-opening ceremony

## BASEBALL

NATHAN J. LILJE  
Staff Writer

The brand new Puget Sound baseball field was officially opened on Friday, March 24, when the Loggers faced the University of British Columbia. Brad Cheney, a former Logger coach who was one of the major contributors to the new field, helped with the festivities, and his son Henry threw out the ceremonial first pitch.

About 250 fans showed up for the ceremonial home opener, which began with British Columbia pushing a run across the plate in the top of the first.

The Loggers came back in the bottom half of the inning with a run, and then added seven more in the next three innings.

Puget Sound surrendered four runs in the top of the fifth, but right handed pitcher Seth Samsell, one of six pitchers the team used in the game, got the Loggers out of the jam with an impressive relief performance. Samsell pitched an inning and two thirds and struck out three. The Loggers scored two more runs in the bottom of the seventh, and Matt Sorenson closed out the game in the top of the ninth inning, as Puget Sound defeated British Columbia 10-5. Starting pitcher Casey Cowles (1-0) earned the win, going two and two-thirds innings and giving up just one run.

Sorenson led the offense, going 2-4 with an RBI and one run scored. Sorenson is hitting .368 on the season. Jeff Halstead, who leads the team with a .442 batting average, was also 2-4 with an RBI. Shortstop Nate Angelo, hitting .333 on the season, was 1-3 with an RBI and two runs scored.

Other leading Logger hitters include shortstop Ryan Keller, hitting .429, and third baseman Alike Antone, who leads the team with 12 RBI and two homeruns.

The field dedication had been delayed due to Spring Break, but the Loggers' first games on their new field were actually on March 18 and 19, when they took two of three from conference rival Whitworth. The Loggers took the first game, 8-7,

when a seventh-inning Keller single scored Willie Keith to break the tie.

On Sunday, the first game of a doubleheader ended in a 3-0 Logger victory. UPS was error-free and pounded out 11 hits.

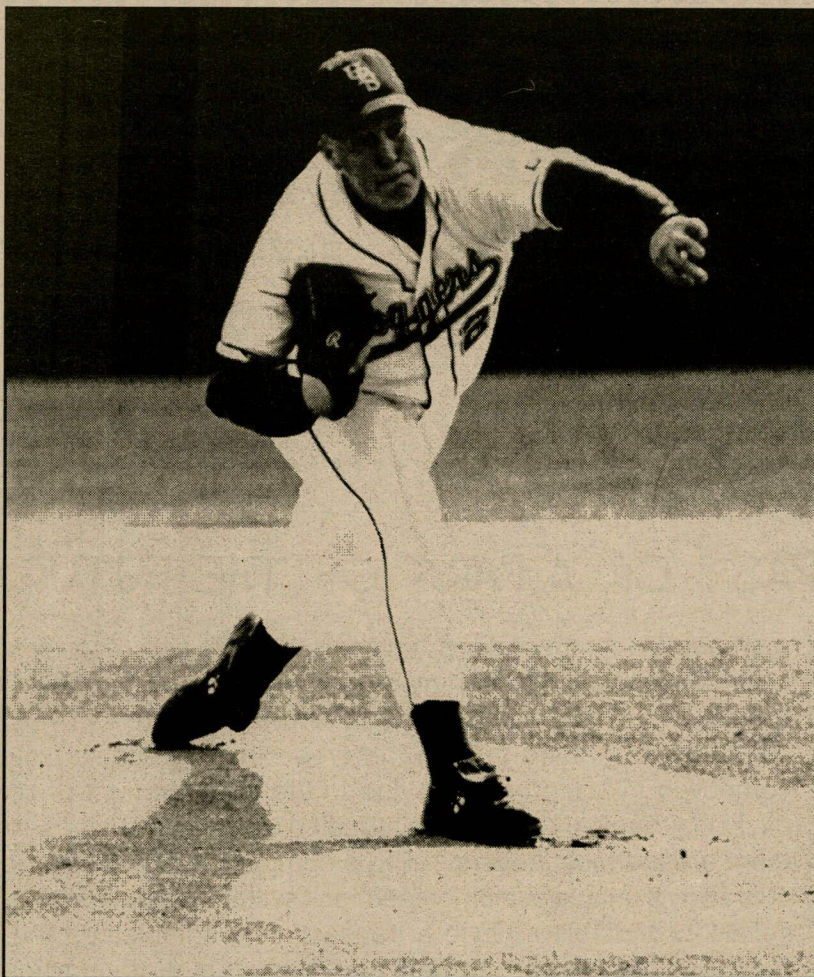
Ryan Johnson pitched a complete-game shutout in the Logger win. He gave up just five hits and did not walk a single batter. The performance earned Northwest Conference Pitcher of the Week honors for the week of March 13-19 for the senior from Salem.

The Loggers' other action over Spring Break was in Texas for the McMurray Classic Tournament, March 13-15. The Loggers went 2-4 against very tough competition in the tournament. UPS defeated North Park College

of Illinois and Nebraska-Wesleyan, but dropped their other contests to host McMurray 1-4, Nebraska-Wesleyan 2-5, Hardin Simmons 5-16 and Southern Nazarene 2-5.

After splitting a double-header on March 28 against cross-town rival PLU, the Loggers will head to Newberg, Oregon to face Northwest Conference leaders George Fox University. The teams will play a doubleheader at 1:00 p.m. on Saturday, April 1, and one nine-inning game on Sunday, April 2, at noon. George Fox is off to a terrific start, posting a 5-1 record in the Northwest Conference and 15-2 overall.

The Loggers will then return to Tacoma to play PLU down in Parkland on Wednesday, April 5 at 3:00 p.m. Puget Sound has 18 more games after that, including 15 against Conference opponents. The team's record now stands at 3-2 in the Conference and 8-10 overall.



Casey Cowles throws a pitch on his way to earning the win for the Loggers, 10-5, over the University of British Columbia.

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NWC: 3-2  
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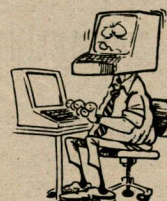
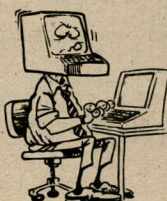
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# Yoga brings awareness of bodies, selves

KEITH CHAFFEE-ELLIS  
Contributing Editor

So what is the big deal with yoga anyway? I mean, my mother goes through her yoga routine religiously. So does my aunt, my friend's mother, my old postman and thousands upon thousands of other people. I was becoming quite concerned about what was going on, thinking that there might be some sort of yoga revolution or something, when I too was invited to partake in the yoga experience. A friend of mine suggested that I attend a yoga gathering here at UPS to increase my stretching routine after jogging. So, with slight apprehension, I walked into Miriam Karpilow's yoga class.

What I found wasn't a bunch of hippie wannabes in the midst of meditation, humming indiscernibly to themselves. Instead, I found an eclectic group of welcoming and friendly fellow students sitting in a circle, comfortably clad in sweats and t-shirts. I can't even describe two thirds of the positions that we contorted our bodies into, but I still had a great time, and even made some new friends. More importantly, I learned that yoga wasn't just some re-emerging hippie fad that was about as useful as The Swifter.

Recently, I had the chance to interview Karpilow, UPS' own yoga guru, who holds classes Monday and Thursday nights in the Fieldhouse.

**Keith:** How did you get into yoga?

**Miriam:** One of my neighbors started taking a class while I was in Germany for the summer, and when I came home she said 'Oh you would love this, you have to come to yoga!' So she dragged me along, and I loved it. It might have something to do with the fact that I'd had my wisdom teeth pulled two days before and I was all drugged-up, but I really enjoyed it, and I felt like it was something that really worked with me. So I just kept going.

**K:** Some have described yoga as being very meditative and a great way to get in touch with themselves, while others have described it as being very athletic, sweat-inducing and intense. Where would you rate your instruction?

**M:** I'd say I'm about half-way. Meditative yoga is actually called Raja. Then the hardcore yoga, which some people call "power yoga", is called Ashtanga, and that's what Madonna does, and she's getting pretty famous for that. But actually I like to do a little bit of both.

**K:** What about next year? You're no longer go-

ing to be here, but there's actually going to be a yoga P.E. class offered.

**M:** Yeah, it's going to be Mondays and Wednesdays at noon in the danceroom.... I'm glad, I think it's wonderful that they're finally adding a formal yoga class. Of course I'm a little upset that I'm not going to be here and be able to teach my students, but I hope that people take advantage it. There's also going to be a class, Religion 108, taught by Stuart Smithers, called 'Yoga & Ascetic' I believe, so if you're interested I'd suggest checking it out.

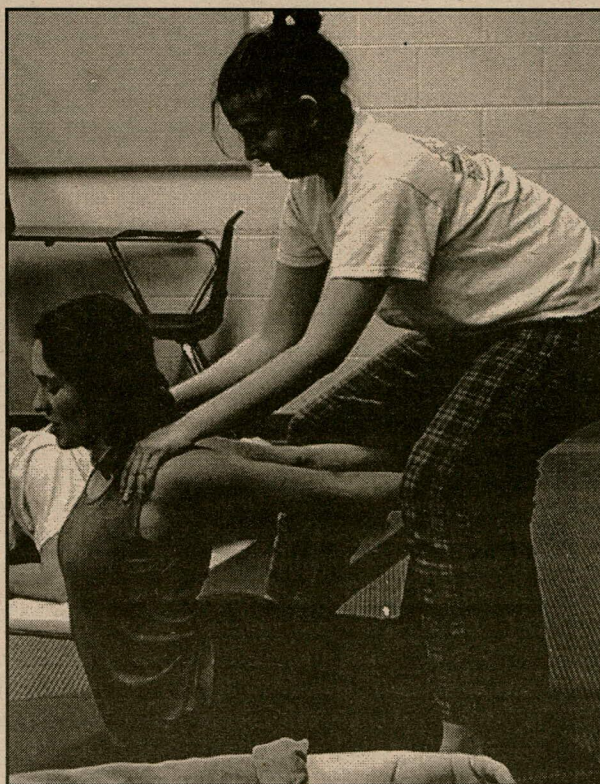
**K:** Is there anything more about yoga that you'd care to share? For instance, how is nude yoga?

**M:** Nude yoga is NOT really all that fun. (Laughs.) Though, if you've heard from people that've come to yoga, you might hear that it's pretty intense, and definitely a work-

out. This can be true, but the beautiful thing about yoga is that no matter how advanced the class or how easy it is, you take it at your own level. Yoga is not about competition, it's about being comfortable where you are, and figuring out how to be comfortable where you are.... Yoga is a very full experience that involves much more than the physical aspects. One of my teachers told me once that it's a good teacher that can make the hard poses easy, but it's a great teacher that can make the easy poses difficult. I try to convey that in my yoga classes where you work as hard as you want to. You push yourself and you challenge yourself, but you don't break yourself. And you don't compare yourself to anyone else. It's about where you are and just working forward from where you are.

**K:** What do you think about the great influx of yoga into mainstream society? It seems almost as if it has become a fad.

**M:** Yeah, go Madonna. (Laughs.) I think that it is great, but also that the point is missed. Not that I know what the point of yoga is, because I am also a student. But I think that a lot of people are turning to yoga because they've heard that it's not only a form of exercise, but also meditative, and can bring a certain amount of peace that other exercises can't. Yoga isn't an exercise, and I don't think it should be called an exercise. I personally disagree with the 'fad' stage, and Madonna glorifying this as her new thing. I think that a lot of it has to do with attitude, and the way it is approached. If people are going to do yoga, and approach it with an open attitude, and try to get the spirituality and peace out of it as well, then I think that's wonderful.



Miriam Karpilow, with the help of another participant in the Yoga class, demonstrates how to achieve the 'Bow' position.

**K:** Would you say that you get a 'stereotypical' group of people that come to your classes? Or is it a full range of walks of life that come?

**M:** I think we've got a pretty full range, y'know we've got everyone from some very spiritual and meditative people to some serious athletes and also people in between who all come for different reasons. I think we have a very broad spectrum.

**K:** Are there any final comments that you'd like to make about yoga and the class you offer?

**M:** Yoga can be for anyone. It's worth trying out if you've ever been interested, and don't be scared if you've heard that it's hard, because again, you take it as far as you want to. It's a great place to just sort of unwind and become more aware of your body and of your self. It's a wonderful place to meet interesting people, make new friends and laugh a lot. We all have a great sense of humor, and it's important to have a great sense of humor. (Laughs.)

Indeed, there is a great deal of laughing at the yoga sessions, which sometimes aides in further contorting your body (in a good way). So I'd suggest tossing aside your apprehension and taking a trip down to the Fieldhouse on Mondays and Thursdays at 8 p.m. There you can not only learn all the cool things that you can do with your body, but also gain some peace and make some new friends.

## SPORTS Feature

# Little guys come up big at NCAA Tournament

ZACH EHLERT  
Staff Writer

Although there are no big Cinderella stories headed into the Final Four—the highest seed to win a game was an 11—this year's tournament has proven that no one is safe, no matter how good they were throughout the regular season.

Cincinnati, ranked number one for much of the regular season, was relegated to a second seed after star player Kenyon Martin went down with a broken leg; without him they were able to win only one game before being knocked out. Michigan State was the only number one seed to survive and make it back to the Final Four, and it wasn't easy. They had to come from behind in their last three games, including an amazing come-from-behind victory over Syracuse in which they were down by 14 early in the second half, managed to tie the game with just over five minutes left and ended the game with a 17-0 run to win it.

Stanford was run down by a North Carolina team that some didn't even expect to be invited, and Duke couldn't hang on against a young Florida team. But the most surprising team to make it to Indy has to be Wisconsin.

Like Carolina, they barely made it into the field of 64. They needed a big win over Indiana to end the regular season and a good run in the Big Ten conference tournament to prove they were worthy of being invited to the big dance. With a 22-13 record, they have the most losses of any team to make it to the final four since it first began in 1939. They are the lowest seed, along with Carolina (both #8), to make it since LSU in 1986 made it as a #11 seed.

Unlike North Carolina, though, Wisconsin is not known as a basketball powerhouse. They haven't been to the final four since they won it all in 1941 over Washington State, and they've done it without a star player. In fact, no one on the Wisconsin team was even voted All-Conference honorable mention in the tough Big Ten. Carolina, on the other hand, is well known to the Final Four, especially in Indianapolis where they made it in '91 and '97.

Two number eight seeds in the final four? That's

crazy. Add to the mix a young Florida team seeded fifth, and this year's final four is the most unexpected in years. Maybe this is just what was needed to open the eyes of the NCAA officials who have

opposed a similar play-off system for major college football.

While football and basketball are decidedly different games, the basketball tournament brings to light the truth

of the old adage that on any given day, any team can beat any other team.

With the bowl system in place for college football, there's only one game that counts to crown a national champion. With a tournament, anyone has a chance to pull off a big upset or two and make a run for the championship. And that's what really makes the NCAA basketball tournament. It's three weekends of basketball mayhem, all bets are off and anything can happen. Just ask Wisconsin.

## SPORTS Commentary

## LOGGER LINE

For a complete schedule of all athletic events, pick up a pocket schedule in the athletic office.

### Track and Field

April 1  
Ralph  
Vernacchia Team  
Classic  
@ Bellingham  
10:00 a.m.

### Baseball

April 1  
George Fox  
University (DH)  
@ Newberg, Ore.  
1:00 p.m.

April 2  
George Fox  
University  
@ Newberg, Ore.  
12:00 p.m.

April 5  
Pacific Lutheran  
University  
@ Parkland  
3:00 p.m.

### Softball

April 1  
Whitworth  
College (DH)  
@ HOME  
12:00 p.m.

April 2  
Whitworth  
College (DH)  
@ HOME  
12:00 p.m.

April 2  
St. Martin's  
College  
@ HOME  
3:00 p.m.

### Men's Tennis

April 1  
George Fox  
University  
@ Newberg, Ore.  
9:00 a.m.

April 1  
Lewis & Clark  
College  
@ Portland, Ore.  
2:00 p.m.

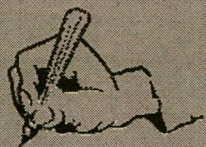
April 5  
Evergreen State  
College  
@ Olympia  
3:00 p.m.

### Women's Tennis

April 1  
George Fox  
University  
@ HOME  
10:00 a.m.

April 1  
Lewis & Clark  
College  
@ HOME  
3:00 p.m.





## LETTERS To THE EDITOR

### Student questions writers' understanding, accuracy

Dear Editor:

While waiting for my Tuesday afternoon seminar to begin, I read Erin Speck's criticism of the electoral caucus system. What struck me more than her opposition to the process was her ignorance of the Constitutional foundation that underpins it. First of all, the United States is not now, nor has it ever been, a pure democracy. It is a representative republic. Even a cursory reading of the Constitution would have informed her of that fact. The election of delegates from neighborhoods and development of party platforms at the precinct level enable anyone with sufficient interest to become an important contributor to issues that matter to them. For example, regardless of one's personal opinion of the Christian Coalition, it must be acknowledged that one of that group's greatest strengths is their ability to organize at the grassroots level and dominate delegate counts at political conventions. They are effective at advancing their agenda because instead of sniveling about the unfairness of the political system in editorials, their members care enough to show up at caucuses, get elected as delegates, and shape the platform that guides their party. Members of the National Education Association often dominate delegate counts at Democratic conventions for the same reason—informed political activism, not whiny rock throwing.

Second, her claim that citizens who are traveling during the caucuses have no voice in the process is completely without merit. If she had bothered to contact the headquarters of any of the political parties, she would have learned that provisions can be made for proxy voting, and even proxy election to delegate positions. The parties work very hard to en-

courage participation and will usually go to great lengths to facilitate involvement. For example, the passage of the "Motor Voter" legislation, the explosion of absentee voting and the discussion of online electioneering are only a few of the measures taken to bring more people into the process.

Additionally, at the local level, which impacts all of us more than national politics do anyway, the one-person, one-vote standard is in full force. This is glaringly apparent in issues such as school bond levies and judicial elections, which are typically decided by a very small number of informed/uninformed voters. In these cases, individuals have a disproportionately large impact on the fate of their fellow citizens.

Philosophically, I understand the impulse to liberalize the election process as it would appear to amplify the voices of the individual voters. However, as a pragmatist, I must ask if we as a nation want to have our laws determined by people who are too apathetic to even show up at a neighborhood political caucus.

Ellis A. Reyes  
Graduate Student, MAT Program

Dear Editor,

I have one question to ask in response to Geoff Zeiger's column regarding the implementation of a multi-national peacekeeping force in the Golan to help facilitate peace between Israel and Syria...

Would he sign up to serve there?  
Ellis Reyes, Graduate Student, MAT Program  
Veteran 2nd Ranger Battalion (USA)

## What are your feelings about UPS orientation programs?



"It was a good way to get to know people you wouldn't ordinarily know. And Ultimate Frisbee rules."

—Christine Burton—



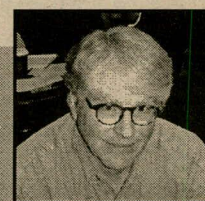
"Passages played a big part for me in choosing UPS."

—Brianne Marrah—



"I liked the opportunity to go back-packing and get to know people through an outdoor experience rather than in the classroom."

—Ashley Clipson—



"While important in the past, my impression is that fewer students these days find Preludes to be valuable."

—Professor Doug Cannon—



"The best part of orientation was Passages. I liked the hoe-down and the climbing wall. Oh, and the seals."

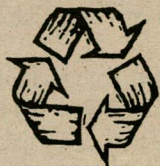
—Gianna Piccardo—



"I felt very disoriented."

—Buck DeFore—

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# Faculty threatens Passages, Reading Period

• Orientation and Reading Period important parts of University experience

RYAN SWEENEY  
Guest Writer

This past week-end I participated in the annual Student Development Retreat, better known as the Passages/Perspectives training weekend, despite its other functions. As I watched all these energetic, exciting new Passages leaders, I couldn't help but think how lucky next year's freshmen are to have such leaders. As hopeful as I was, I couldn't help but wonder if these leaders knew exactly what was in store for the Passages program.

What I fear many of these leaders and other students are unaware of are the proposed changes to the academic calendar. Currently, the faculty and the Faculty Senate are discussing some changes to the academic calendar. These changes have some nice effects, but some even more detrimental impacts.

The benefits would include the Wednesday before Thanksgiving off, and adding a day to Fall Break, so that we would have Saturday through Tuesday off. All in all, not a bad deal. After all, who doesn't leave early for Thanksgiving, and the Tuesday after Fall Break is always hell.

But these benefits come at a cost. In order to "make up" for these lost days, the proposed changes would shorten the orientation period because "over the last several years many faculty have voiced concern that orientation is too long." In



fact, Orientation would be so shortened that Passages would be less than 24 hours after traveling time. Now that will make for one awesome "backpacking" trip. It would end up more like a leisurely walk in the woods.

I think it's only natural that many faculty members feel that Orientation is too long—the only part of Orientation that they are involved in is Preludes, a boring classroom setting. What faculty fail to realize is that Passages is an award winning program and possibly the ONLY thing that UPS can boast about nationally. Cutting Passages would force incoming freshmen to miss out on a great experience that I and many others hold very dear to our hearts.

As an alternative to cutting the length of Orientation, some faculty members discussed cutting out Reading Period entirely. The rationale again is that if they give us two days, they have to take two

back to equal a zero sum.

The idea of losing Reading Period honestly positions me between being very afraid, and downright

pissed off. Especially infuriating about the Reading Period loss is that the faculty seem to believe they are still "giving" the students Saturday and Sunday before finals to study. How generous of them. Maybe next year, if I'm really good, they'll "give" me July off again. And after I graduate, they'll "give" me as much time as I think I need. In fact I hope they don't, because I'm not sure I've got that many thank-you cards.

Reading period is a very necessary break for many students for several reasons. First off, many of them use it to do the studying that they could not pass finals without. Having to take four finals basically necessitates four days of studying, minimum. For many other students, the break is a way of resetting themselves mentally for these tests after having turned in several large papers or projects. For me, a good night's sleep is often more important than an extra couple hours of studying because it makes my mind more flexible. This is especially true on essay or long answer exams, which are more popular at this level of academia.

I will grant that the proposed benefits are nice, I'm especially fond of the "travel day" before Thanksgiving. While it would be nice to have an extra day after Fall Break, I don't think that students would die without it. I also don't think that there is "characteristically low attendance" on that day, as there is the day before Thanksgiving.

In short, there's really no reason for any of the detrimental effects, and all they do is necessitate either a loss of Reading Period or a reduction in Orientation. And either outcome would be detrimental.

I sat in on a faculty meeting where this issue was discussed. Luckily they were not prepared to take action on it. Many faculty members seem to be rather oblivious to the issue, if they even care at all. I guess they are just not aware of the real concerns of students.

So it seems to me that if you enjoyed Reading Period, if you had fun at Passages, if you made friends during it, if you ever have or ever will lead a group during it, or if you want to see it saved at all, make sure to tell your professors about it. Make sure they understand how you really feel about your breaks, and urge them to vote against the changes to the academic calendar on April 4th.

## Exerpts from the Calendar Committee report to Faculty Senate:

*'Committee rejected holding classes on Labor day, as it is traditionally a staff holiday. Shortening the reading period undermines the academic mission of the University.'*

*'In the current configuration first year students are on campus for two weekends before they actually attend a class. With the proposed calendar, the vast majority of students would attend one session of every course before the second weekend. Also it was the sense of some members of the committee that over the last several years many faculty have voiced concern that Orientation is too long.'*

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# PETA: Got brain?

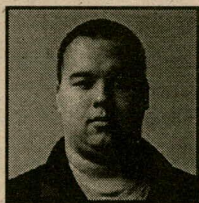
T. CARL KWOH  
Staff Writer

It struck me as odd, if not a little bit inappropriate, when PETA (or, as I like to call them, People for the Eating of Tasty Animals) introduced a new ad campaign targeting students on college campuses that read "Got...Beer? Better than milk new survey shows!" Perhaps I'm old fashioned, but isn't it usually people telling us not to drink? And isn't there usually a drinking problem on college campuses? Did it stop PETA from running this campaign? No—not initially at least. Though they have bowed to pressure from MADD and stopped running the ads, they still stand by their advertisements and ran them for several weeks.

This of course gets me on the subject of animal rights activism in general, of which PETA is simply a prominent organization. While I am not against all animal rights activism, most of it really annoys me. Now I can understand the opposition to the testing of make-up and such on animals. I don't really see a reason for that sort of thing. If they are really interested in testing a product that they think will be so harmful to humans that they need to test it out on animals first, it should tell them something.

However, I don't quite understand putting animals' lives above humans' in the medical research or biotech industry. Both of my parents are scientists and as such they have both worked on animals throughout their careers. And I was partly raised in their labs as well, first learning to love science and to hate minor details. And while I wouldn't say that the animal labs where they keep the assorted mice, rats, bunnies and hamsters were the ideal area for keeping pets, I would say that they were the ideal place for keeping experimental animals.

These animals were bred specifically



for the purpose of scientific testing. They were born, they grew up, and they will die in a laboratory. This seems legitimate to me. I don't see why we need a few hundred more mice at large, nor why they would have any reason to exist at all if the labs were not there. I don't feel like going into a long discussion about why animals are a good way to test medical treatments in their early stages, so I'll embark on a different strategy.

Let's take this latest thing that PETA has latched on to—the dairy industry. Now we all love cookies and milk or milk in cereal—well most of us anyway. And we were probably raised in a household where milk was on the table for much of our early life. For those of you who weren't, just pretend for a moment you were. Now if we decided not to continue to do this, not to drink milk or have dairy products as PETA is suggesting, I ask you this—what would happen to the cows?

They would be killed for their beef and leather. And if we abolished eating beef in this country (may the Lord never let this happen), then the domesticated cow would be hunted to extinction simply for its leather. We would blithely kill all the cows and they would no longer exist. I think the cow would prefer a life involving a few bruised udders than not existing at all. This applies for many forms of animal rights activism as well. If the scientists weren't experimenting to save humanity from illness and the food industry was not interested in large amounts of meat, then these animals that PETA believes are so completely downtrodden would not exist.

Are there problems with the food industry's treatment of animals? Almost undoubtedly. No wait, I take that back—it's a definitive yes. Are there problems with the way the medical industry treats lab animals? It could be argued so. I would disagree, having read some of the laws that regulate animal use in the laboratory, but then again I'm the son of two scientists. Would it be nice to fix these problems? Of course. Was PETA wrong to run those ads? Yes. Plain and simple.

# Action justification questioned

KIRSTEN SCHLEWITZ  
Staff Writer

Lately, I've been noticing that our society is obsessed with justification. To enjoy something, a person must give a reason for his or her enjoyment, or a reason why it's okay to give in to the desire.

You probably hear this all the time, but don't register that people are justifying each action they take, no matter how minute. Well, at least females are. For instance, when a girl picks up a cookie or two and places them on her sub tray, she tells her friends, "I worked out today, so this is alright." Why is it no longer acceptable to merely crave chocolate chips? Or when a person goes out in public wearing pajama pants and a baseball cap, they tell everyone, "I woke up late." Maybe they did. Or perhaps they wanted to be comfortable, but are afraid to admit this to anyone.

I suppose it is probably this country's obsession with appearance that causes people to feel they need to justify their wants. If a person feels they need to look like a model or have the body of an athletic superstar, they may feel it's not acceptable to indulge in chocolate. However, we are all human, and all treat ourselves or slack once in awhile.

There are also other types of justification I have



heard from fellow students recently. Consider this scenario—a person is walking down the hallway and singing a Backstreet Boys song. You give them a funny look, and they respond by stating it was the last song they heard on their roommate's radio and they have to sing it to drive it out of their brain. Don't judge, I know you've been guilty of the same thing. But why can't we admit that we, at that moment in time, felt like singing a little BSB?

I believe it's because it's one of those things that definitely aren't considered cool. Little girls scream and lust after boy bands, so how can a college guy justify his singing the song? Only by downplaying his actual interest can the guy get off the hook.

Another indulgence we are supposedly guilty of is television watching. Experts and studies warn of the dangers of TV and advise against watching too much. So we don't like to admit that we've pushed aside the homework in favor of curling up under the covers to watch a few reruns.

It is possible that there are better ways to use our time than to watch silly shows. It is also known that chocolate chip cookies aren't as good for you as carrot sticks, and that the Backstreet Boys are not the epitome of musical talent. But relax. If you want chocolate, don't make excuses. If you wish to wear pajamas in public, go for it. Just please, stop over-justifying your every move. Just come out and say, "I'd rather watch Dawson's Creek than do anything else right now, so just get off my case about it!"

## Corrections

In the March 9 issue of the *Trail*, there were a few inconsistencies concerning the Committee descriptions in the Features section. There is no longer an Ad Hoc Technology Committee. The Committee for Institutional Advancement is now actually the Development and Alumni Relations Committee. There is also a Committee of Academic Standards, on which two student members sit, in the Faculty Committee section. The *Trail* wishes to apologize for any inconvenience this may have caused.

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# Wal-Mart flier inaccurate, unfair

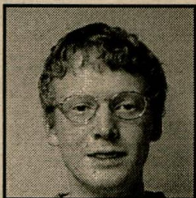
• Correct representations advocated by concerned student

Geoff Zeiger  
Staff Writer

I came across a flier in the sub the other day that declared "Did you know: Wal-Mart CEO David Glass makes \$2000 an hour, while the average hourly wage of Wal-Mart workers in Honduras is only 43 cents" Now, granted, that is a lousy wage, but as always, I feel compelled to take the controversial view. Wal-Mart actually treats its workers far better than is required by the local government, and better even than most of its American competitors in the area. Also, the flier, posted by the campus club Freak Out, seems to suggest a solution that would prove less than constructive. The typical response to inhumane working conditions abroad is all too often a knee-jerk reaction to "buy American," a discriminatory solution that will help neither Honduran workers nor American consumers.

Although 43 cents is tiny by American standards, a little research reveals that the average wage in Honduras is a measly 34 cents an hour (calculated from a per capita GDP of \$670 a year)—Wal-Mart is voluntarily paying its workers 26 percent over the prevailing local wage for virtually unskilled labor. The comparison is even more favorable when one realizes the distortions in the 34 cent statistic. That number is a mean, not a median, which means that the very rich bring the average up substantially. All Wal-Mart workers make 43 cents an hour, while most Hondurans make less than 34 cents an hour. The number is also distorted because my calculation assumes that the average Honduran works only forty hour weeks and takes vacations to earn that \$670, which is simply untrue.

While I applaud Freak Out's efforts to educate people regarding the products they buy, I



have to disagree with their choice of target. Pick on The Gap or some other company that genuinely abuses its workers. While it is easy to become outraged by isolated numbers like those presented in the poster, the truth is often distorted by such a lack of analysis.

I also think it is worth noting that the traditional response to poor working conditions, namely the "buy American" frenzy that has come to dominate both the far left and the far right of American politics, is counterproductive. It will not help improve conditions abroad and, when enshrined in law, it deprives American consumers of choices.

Except in countries with oppressive governments that create prison-camp conditions, the presence of American industry in poor countries is beneficial. If a company is offering low wages, another company can easily take its workers by offering higher wages. The fault underlying poor working conditions is not capitalism but rather the lack of it. Present American policy gives preferential treatment to certain countries' imports. NAFTA and other agreements create a situation where imports from Mexico are taxed at a lower rate than imports from other countries like Honduras.

In effect, this creates a downward pressure on wages in Honduras by forcing companies operating there to face a higher tariff schedule, thus making them unable to compete with workers in Mexico. The solutions proposed by union

leaders like Jay Mazur, invoking the mantra of "fair trade," would only worsen this disparity. Sanctioning countries for poor labor conditions only makes it more difficult for those countries to raise working standards. Trade needs to be free so that firms will compete for workers (by offering higher wages) rather than competing for tax breaks (by fleeing countries whose standards of living are already deplorable).

Another action that should be taken to improve worker rights is to require companies to disclose the locations of their plants. The worst abuses have come to light in factories that were concealed by corporations. A little transparency, coupled with the ever-present threat of a visit

from CNN, would go a long way toward motivating companies to conform to labor standards.

Again, I applaud Freak Out for attempting to raise public awareness of a huge problem in developing societies world wide, but I think that Wal-Mart is to be praised, not demonized. Public activism can and often has changed corporate behavior, but please, target the right companies and lobby Congress for the right policies.

Remember, numbers are meaningless unless they can be compared to something. This 43 cents an hour would be cause for protest in the United States, but with regard to Wal-Mart's operations in Honduras, it represents a genuine effort to improve the welfare of each of its employees.

*While it is easy to become outraged by isolated numbers like those presented in the poster, the truth is often distorted by such a lack of analysis. Public activism can and often has changed corporate behavior, but please, target the right companies and lobby Congress for the right policies.*

The Trail's Opinions section is on the lookout for a new, and yes, PAID, Staff writer. If you are interested in writing your opinion, letting others know where you stand, or just like writing essays a whole bunch—please come to WSC 011 and ask about the position. Thanks!

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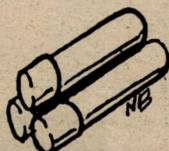
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